

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 65 and 74 as indicated below. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1.-22. (Cancelled)

23. (Currently Amended) A method of forwarding a telephone call from a caller intended to be directed to a first, fixed, telephony number toward a second, mobile, telephony number in order to render an intended responder associated with the second telephony number reachable at a mobile phone instead of a fixed telephone, comprising:

having the caller place a call to a virtual mobile telephony number associated with the first telephony number;

receiving the call at a switching apparatus of a mobile telephony network;

upon receiving, at the switching apparatus of the mobile telephony network, the call from the caller to the virtual mobile telephony number, first routing the call to the first telephony number;

conditioned by the fact that call forwarding from the first telephony number to the second telephony number is enabled, routing the call from the switching apparatus to the second telephony number; and

if the responder accepts, terminating the call from the caller at the second telephony number instead of at the first telephony number, so as to establish a direct telephone call between the caller and the responder.

24. (Cancelled)

25. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim ~~[[24]]~~ 23, further comprising:

having the call forwarding enabled at an apparatus associated with the first telephony number.

26. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 25, further comprising:
conditioned to the fact that the call forwarding is not enabled and that the incoming call is answered at the first telephony number, terminating the call thereat and establishing a direct telephone call between the caller and the first telephony number.

27. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 26, further comprising:
in case the call is not answered at the first telephony number, determining the second telephony number and enabling said call forwarding.

28. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 27, further comprising:
after the enabling of said call forwarding, dropping a call section from the switching apparatus to the first telephony number, while keeping the call from the caller on hold at said switching apparatus.

29. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 23, wherein said first telephony number corresponds to a PBX network having a plurality of extensions.

30. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 29, wherein said first telephony number includes a number of a PBX network switchboard.

31. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 30, comprising receiving the call at the PBX switchboard, forwarding the call to an intended PBX network extension and, in case the call is not answered, providing the second telephony number to a switching apparatus control controlling the switching apparatus.

32. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 29, wherein said first telephony number comprises at least one PBX Direct Inward Dial number corresponding to one of the extensions of the PBX network.

33. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 29, wherein said virtual mobile telephony number associated with the first telephony number comprises at least one virtual mobile telephony number associated with said one extension of the PBX network.

34. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 23, wherein said virtual mobile telephony number associated with the first telephony number is a combination of the first telephony number and an identifying code or a prefix code.

35. (Currently Amended) A method of operating a switching apparatus of a mobile telephony network in order to forward a telephone call from a caller intended to be directed to a first, fixed, telephony number toward a second, mobile, telephony number so as to render an intended responder associated with the second telephony number reachable at a mobile phone instead of a fixed telephone, comprising:

associating a virtual mobile telephony number with the first telephony number;

receiving a call placed to the virtual mobile telephony number at the mobile telephony network switching apparatus;

upon receiving, at the mobile telephony network switching apparatus, the call from the caller to the virtual mobile telephony number, first routing the call from the caller to the first telephony number;

conditioned on the fact that call forwarding from the first telephony number to the second telephony number is enabled, routing the call from the switching center to the second telephony number; and

provided that the responder accepts, terminating the call from the caller at the second telephony number instead of at the first telephony number, so as to establish a direct telephone call between the caller and the responder.

36. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 35, further comprising:
~~upon receiving, at the switching apparatus, the call from the caller to the virtual mobile telephony number, first routing the call from the caller to the first telephony number, and,~~ if the call from the caller is answered at the first telephony number, terminating the call thereat so as to establish a direct telephone call between the caller and the first telephony number.

37. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 36, further comprising:
receiving information apt to determine said second telephony number from an apparatus associated with said first telephony number, and causing the call from the caller to be routed thereto.

38. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 37, further comprising:
after said receiving information apt to determine the second telephony number, dropping a call section from the switching center to the first telephony number, while keeping the call from the caller on hold.

39. (Currently Amended) In a telephone communications system comprising a fixed telephony network and a mobile telephony network, a system for forwarding a telephone call from a caller intended to be directed to a first, fixed, telephony number toward a second, mobile, telephony number in order to render an intended responder associated with the second telephony number reachable at a mobile phone instead of a fixed telephone, comprising:

a database associating a virtual mobile telephony number with the first telephony number; and

a call transport layer of the mobile telephony network adapted to:
receive a call placed to the virtual mobile telephony number at the call transport layer;
route the call to the first telephony number upon receiving the call at the call transport
layer;
~~routing a~~ route the call to the second telephony number in case a call forwarding from the
first telephony number to the second telephony number is enabled; and
if the responder accepts, ~~terminating~~ terminate the call from the caller at the second
telephony number instead of at the first telephony number, so as to establish a direct telephone
call between the caller and the responder.

40. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 39, wherein said first
telephony number is a number of a PBX network having a plurality of extensions.

41. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 40, wherein said first
telephony number includes a number of a PBX network switchboard.

42. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 40, wherein said first
telephony number comprises at least one PBX Direct Inward Dial number corresponding to one
of the extensions of the PBX network.

43. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 40, wherein said virtual
mobile telephony number associated with the first mobile telephony number comprises at least
one virtual mobile telephony number associated with said one extension of the PBX network.

44. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 39, wherein said virtual
mobile telephony number associated with the first mobile telephony number is a combination of
the first telephony number and an identifying code, particularly a prefix code.